

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the non-final Office Action dated April 3, 2007. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 12, 13, 16 to 18, 22, 23, 26 to 28, 32, 33, 36 to 38, 42 and 43 remain in the application; of which claims 1, 12, 22, 32, and 43, the independent claims, have been amended herein. Support for the newly-clarified features recited by the independent claims is found throughout the disclosure, including at least pages 19 and 21 of the specification, and FIGS. 7G and 7L. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, the Examiner's indication that claim 43 is allowed, and that claims 1, 12, 22 and 32 would be considered allowable if they were amended with the same allowable features, is acknowledged with appreciation. Having amended each of the independent claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, an indication of allowance for all claims and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 43 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶, for allegedly being indefinite; claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 13, 16 to 18, 22, 23, 26 to 28, 32, 33 and 36 to 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0111877 ("McFarlane"); and claim 42 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over McFarlane. As indicated above, the Applicants have amended claims 1, 12, 22, 32 and 43 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, to include features that the Examiner has conceded are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection and objection and further examination are thus respectfully requested.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent claims 1, 12, 22 and 32 are believed to be allowable over the applied reference. The other rejected claims in the application are either indicated as allowed, or are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied reference for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define additional aspects of the disclosure, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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No fees are believed to be due at this time Please apply any other charges or credits to
Deposit Account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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